Ethicon Endo-Surgery

513-337-8489

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END-712

FEB 2 4 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mark Ritchart et. al.

Conf No.

6087

Serial No.:

09/734,787

Art Unit:

3731

Filed

December 12, 2000

Examiner:

M. Hindenberg

For

Method and Apparatus for Automated Biopsy and Collection of Soft Tissue

Customer No. 000027777

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

I certify this correspondence is transmitted via facsimile to the US Patent and Trademark Office on February 24,

Gerry Gressel Name of person signing the Certificate

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 9/24/03

Dear Sir:

Petition for a two month extension of Time:

The Commissioner is petitioned for a two month extension of time.

Please charge the fee of \$410 and any other fee required to preserve pendency of the application to Deposit Account 10-0750/END712.

Claims begin on Page 2

Remarks begin on Page 4

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